

Town of Wenham Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday November 13, 2007

7:30 PM at the Senior Center on School Street in Wenham

Commissioners Present: Patrick Wilson, Chair; Leo Maestranzi; Robert Burnett, Phil Colarusso
Also Present: Emilie Cademartori, Conservation Coordinator

New Public Hearings

Notice of Intent

Nelson Avenue, (access from Beverly off Dodge Street) (**DEP file # 326-0303**)

Gravel driveway, culvert replacement, single family house and septic

Applicant: Matthew Power

Representative: John Dick, Hancock Associates

Chairman Wilson read the legal notice to open the hearing. John Dick summarized the project, explaining that the house and septic are to be outside of the buffer, so the filing is really for the driveway improvements and culvert replacement. Driveway is to remain gravel and will be re-graded with a net removal of 20 cubic yards of material. An existing culvert that connects 2 wetlands via an intermittent stream is to be removed and replaced in situ. Mr. Dick explained that the BVW is extensive (bordering the Miles River) and that the riverfront is at a great distance from the project and is therefore not shown. Mr. Dick explained the only change to the grade within the FEMA floodplain is the net removal the 20 cubic yards for the driveway grading and that those calculations are shown on the plans. Commissioner Maestranzi raised the question of the location of the driveway relative to the resource, and whether it was closer than 20 feet. A site visit was scheduled for Tuesday November 20 at 8:30. Appropriate lines will be flagged prior to the visit. Motion to continue the hearing to the next regular meeting on November 26, motion seconded and passed 4-0.

RDA

91 Grapevine Road, Iron Rail Property Soccer Fields

HWYS field drainage improvement

Applicant: Hamilton Wenham Youth Soccer

Representative: Ted Batchelder

Wetland Scientist: Mike DeRosa

Mike DeRosa presented the proposed 2 components of the project including the enlargement of existing swale between the 2 main fields to increase its capacity and effectiveness and the installation of a french drain (consisting of a 10" perforated pipe in a below grade gravel lined trench) around the southeast corner of the eastern field. There will be no direct disturbance or new discharges to the wetland resources on site. Erosion control will be installed. Commissioner Colarusso inquired about the timing of the project. Mr. Batchelder explained that they wish to undertake the project as soon as possible, as it is off season for soccer. The French drain project is the highest priority and will be done first. A draft findings statement and conditions were reviewed. Motion to grant a negative determination with conditions, motion seconded and passed 4-0.

Continued Public Hearings

Notices of Intent

Horse Hill lane (DEP file# 326-0301)

Horse Hill Lane road improvement, driveway, house & septic

Applicant Peter Proulx

Hearing was continued by a prior request of the applicant's attorney Martin Pomeroy.

9 Hull Street (DEP file # 326-0304)

Barn construction, driveway and landscaping improvements

Applicant: Jonathan and Sarah Prescott

Mr. Prescott was present. The Draft OOC and special conditions were briefly discussed. The coordinator identified those conditions that were project specific and clarified with the applicant and members that they were acceptable. A modification to Condition # 38 was made allowing snow stockpile to be located no closer than 80 ft to the wetland (instead of standard distance of 100ft). Motion made to grant the Order as amended, passed 4-0.

Discussion Items

#75 & 79 Arbor St Vernal Pool Consultant decision

The merits of the 3 proposals were briefly discussed. Hyla Ecological was selected to conduct the vernal pool study and wildlife assessment. The coordinator will process the paperwork for the hiring procedure.

Open Space Plan update

Chairman Wilson discussed the need to update the Open Space Plan. The coordinator will review the existing plan and identify level of needed work. A sub committee will be established if needed.

Revisions to local regulations

Coordinator will work Commissioner Whittaker in the coming months to bring the regulations up to speed with the recently amended bylaw. Also, any outstanding minor changes to the bylaw will be identified. Coordinator will check on the deadline for the town meeting warrant.

Administrative Business

Minutes October 9-accepted as written, October 22 accepted with one change

Finances

One legal invoice and subscription to the HW Chronicle were approved.

Motion to adjourn at 8:50, passed 4-0.